different places in the country including those in Himachal Pradesh are given at the Annexure [See Appendix 208 Annexure No. 1]. Since the National Highways run though length and breadth of the country sanction of works on National Highways is accorded to develop/improve them depending on their condition in different stretches and intensity of traffic. Funds are released by Ministry, financial year-wise. Expenditure incurred for development of National Highways in the country including the State of Himachal Pradesh during last four years i.e. (since April, 2002) and current financial year up to May, 2006 is Rs. 34301 crore. Year-wise physical and financial targets for development of National Highways during the current Five Yer Plan are given at Statement (*See* below).

(c) About 37242 km of National Highway is two laned and about 7832 km is four laned and above.

(d) and (e) Government has approved National Highways Development Project-I, II and III-A which are essentially for the development of National Highways from two lane to four lane. Total length covered under this project is about 18300 km, out of which about 6666 km has been four laned. Besides this, about 508 km length of road is proposed for improvement to four lane in Phase-A of Special Accelerated Road Development Programme in North-Eastern Region (SARDPNE).

Statement

Year-wise physical and financial targets of National Highways

Year	Physical Target (Length in km)	Financial Target (Rs. in crore)
2002-2003	6460	11658
2003-2004	8429	15467
2004-2005	7649	14026
2005-2006	5901	10533
2006-2007	5140	12142
TOTAL	33579	63826

Help to fight terrorism

*174. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have sought help from several foreign countries to fight terrorism in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; country-wise;

(c) whether any final agreements have been signed with the foreign countries in this regard during the last two years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which these have been helpful in combating the above menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) to (d) While India has the will and the capacity to combat all acts of terror within our territory, it has been the consistent position of the Government that unwavering international resolve is required to deal effectively with the transnational and international dimensions of this problem. Accordingly, India has cooperated with a number of countries to counter transnational terrorism. A number of Joint Working Groups on Counter Terrorism have been set up with other countries; details are given in the enclosed statement (*See* below). India has also played an influential role at the United Nations in shaping international opinion on combating terrorism. India has also been taking the initiative since 1996 for the adoption of a Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism (CCIT) by the United Nations. This Convention endorses the principle that no terrorist act should be justified on any grounds including ideological, religious, racial or any other. The Heads of State/Government at the High Level Plenary Meeting at the start of the 60th session of the United Nations General Assembly on 14—16 September, 2005 also stressed the "need to make all efforts to reach an agreement on and conclude a Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism". While there is wide support for this initiative a consensus for its adoption has so far eluded the membership of the United Nations General Assembly.

The Joint Working Groups established have been helpful in the fight against transnational terrorism. These have enhanced, *inter alia*, cooperation in the following areas:

(i) Information sharing;

(ii) Capacity building;

(iii) Inter-Agency cooperation;

(iv) Development of mutual legal assistance in criminal matters.

Statement

Details of Joint Working Groups on counter terrorism

Sl. No.	Name of Country	Year of setting up
1.	Egypt	1995
2.	Canada	1997
3.	Germany	1998
4.	U.K.	2000
5.	USA	2000
6.	France	2001
7.	E.U.*	2001
8.	China	2002
9.	Israel	2002
10.	Kazakhstan	2002
11.	Russia	2002
12	Croatia	2002
13	Uzbekistan	2003
14	Thailand	2003
15	Turkey	2003
16.	Singapore	2003
17.	Australia	2003
18.	Tajikistan	2003
19	BIMSTEC*	2004
20	Mauritius	2004
21	Indonesia	2004
22.	Myanmar	2004
23.	Poland	2004
24.	Japan	2005
25.	Cambodia	2005

*Regional Groups